

AIR QUALITY ALERT IN EFFECT

NORTH POLE – STAGE 3 ALERT

FAIRBANKS – STAGE 2 ALERT

Issued: Monday, February 6, 2017 @ 3:00pm

Expires: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 @ 5:00pm

Health Warning: Air Quality in North Pole is classified as Unhealthy, people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion. Air Quality in Fairbanks is classified as Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should limit prolonged exertion.

Forecast: The NWS forecast and local conditions in Fairbanks and North Pole are resulting in poor to very poor dispersion. We are forecasting North Pole air quality to remain Unhealthy, with 24hr average PM_{2.5} values >55ug/m³. Fairbanks air quality is forecast to remain Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, with 24hr average PM_{2.5} values >35ug/m³.

Note: Air Quality readings are from monitoring stations in Fairbanks and North Pole, and may not be representative of your neighborhood. If you are sensitive to air pollution, or experience any respiratory problems, please follow the instructions of your physician.

REMINDER ... ALL OPEN BURNING IS PROHIBITED in the Borough's PM_{2.5} Nonattainment area from November 1st – March 31st, including the use of burn barrels. This does not include recreational fires such as bonfires, campfires, or ceremonial fires.

For more information visit AQFairbanks.com or call 459-1234.

***What does a Stage 2 Alert mean?**

MANDATORY - Burning is permitted in all EPA-certified solid fuel burning appliances, and EPA Phase II qualified hydronic heaters with an annual average emission rating of 2.5 grams or less, masonry heaters, pellet fuel burning appliances, cook stoves, and fireplaces.

No fuel source may be added to the combustion chamber or firebox of any solid fuel burning appliance or waste oil burning appliance not listed above.

Residents should rely instead on their home's alternate, cleaner source of heat (such as a gas or fuel oil fired furnace or boiler or electric baseboard heaters) until the Stage 2 air alert is cancelled.

*****What does a Stage 3 Alert mean?**

MANDATORY - No fuel source may be added to the combustion chamber or firebox of any solid fuel burning appliances, masonry heaters, pellet fuel burning appliances, cook stoves, fireplaces, or waste oil burning appliances.

---Residents should rely instead on their home's alternate, cleaner source of heat (such as a furnace, boiler or electric baseboard heaters) until the Stage 3 air alert is cancelled.

---These restrictions do not apply during a power failure or to EPA-certified solid fuel burning appliances, EPA Phase II qualified hydronic heaters with an annual average emission rating of 2.5 grams or less, masonry heaters or pellet fuel burning appliances when the temperature is below -15 Fahrenheit as recorded at the Fairbanks International Airport.